INTERFERENCE INITIAL MEMORANDUM

Count	Ħ
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To the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences: An interference is proposed involving the following $\underline{2}$ parties

PARTY Conoco Inc.	APPLICATION NO. 09/805,422	FILING DATE 13 March 2001	PATENT 6,473,69			UE DATE, IF ANY October 0200		
If the involved case is a patent, have its maintenance fees been paid? Yes No Not due yet								
Proposed priority benefit (list all intervening applications necessary for continuity):								
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	PATENT NO., IF ANY ISS			E DATE, IF ANY		
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			<u> </u>					
The claim(s) of this party corresponding to this count:								
PATENTED OR PATENTABLE PENDING CLAIMS 1 and 9			UNPATENTABLE PENDING CLAIMS					
The claim(s) of this party	NOT corresponding to this co	ount:		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
PATENTED OR PATENTABLE PENDING CLAIMS		UNPATENTABLE PENDING CLAIMS						
PARTY ExxonMobile Upstream	APPLICATION NO. 10/666,208	FILING DATE 18 September 2003	PATENT	Γ NO., IF ANY	ISSU	E DATE, IF ANY		
If the involved case is a patent, have its maintenance fees been paid? Yes No Not due yet								
<u>.</u>	Proposed priority ben	efit (list all intervening applic	ations nece	ssary for continuity	y):			
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	PATENT NO., IF ANY ISS		ISSU	SSUE DATE, IF ANY		
US	09/973,529	09 October 2001						
US	09/686,735	10 October 2000						
The claim(s) of this party corresponding to this count:								
PATENTED OR PATENTABLE PENDING CLAIMS 23-26			UNPATENTABLE PENDING CLAIMS					
The claim(s) of this party NOT corresponding to this count:								
PATENTED OR PATENTABLE PENDING CLAIMS			UNPATENTABLE PENDING CLAIMS					
(Check off each step, if applicable) INSTRUCTIONS								
 □ Obtain all files listed above. □ Confirm that the proposed involved claims are still active and all corrections and entered amendments have been considered. The patents must not be expired for, among other things, failure to pay a maintenance fee (Check PALM screen 2970). □ 3. If one of the involved files is a published application or a patent, check for compliance with 35 U.S.C. 135(b). □ 4. Obtain a certified copy of any foreign benefit documents where necessary (37 CFR 1.55(a)). □ 5. Discuss the proposed interference with an Interference Practice Specialist in your Technology Center. 								
DATE 27 September 2004	PRIMARY EXAMIN	PRIMARY EXAMINER (Signature)		ART UNIT 2863		TELEPHONE NO. 571-272-2281		
DATE		INTERFERENCE PRACTICE SPECIALIST or TECHNOLOGY CENTER DIRECTOR (signature)						